

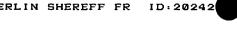
at least one layer comprising a resilient elastomeric component disposed about the hoop-stress layer; and

a cover comprising at least one layer and being disposed about the at least one layer including a resilient elastomeric component.

- (Amended) The golf ball of claim 2, wherein the at least one material comprises a 3. wire, thread, or filament.
- 7. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 2, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.
- 8. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 3, wherein the wire, thread, or filament has a first cross-sectional area prior to coating with the binding material and a second cross-sectional area greater than the first after coating.
- 9. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 2, wherein the hoop-stress layer is disposed between first and second layers of the encapsulating shell.
  - (Amended) The golf ball of claim 1, comprising the following layers:
    - a fluid-filled center;.
      - an encapsulating shell comprising at least one layer to contain the fluid;
    - at least one layer comprising a first resilient elastomeric component;
    - a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one material with a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater disposed about [or within] the at least one layer of the first resilient elastomeric component;
    - at least one layer comprising a second resilient elastomeric component disposed about the hoop-stress layer; and
    - a cover comprising at least one layer and being disposed about the at least one layer including a second resilient elastomeric component.

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- 17. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 10, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.
- 18. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 13, wherein the wire, thread, or filament has a first cross-sectional area prior to coating with the binding material and a second cross-sectional area greater than the first after coating.
- 19. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 10, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer is disposed between first and second layers comprising the first resilient elastomeric component.
- (Amended) The golf ball of claim 1 comprising: at least one core layer comprising a first resilient elastomeric component; a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one fibrous material with a tensile
  - elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater wound about the at least one core layer;
  - at least one intermediate layer comprising a second resilient elastomeric component disposed about the hoop-stress layer; and
  - a cover comprising at least one layer and being disposed about the at least one intermediate layer.
- 28. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 20, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 20,000 kpsi or greater.
- 29. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 13, wherein the wire, thread, or filament has a first cross-sectional area prior to coating with the binding material and a second cross-sectional area greater than the first after coating.
- 30. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 20, wherein the at least one material forming the hoop-stress layer is disposed between first and second core layers.





- 31. (Amended) A golf ball having four or more layers comprising:
  - a center,
  - a cover comprising at least one layer, and
  - a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one strand with a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater, wherein the strand has a first cross-sectional area and the strand is coated with a binding material prior to winding to provide a coated strand with a second cross-sectional area greater than the first by about 5 percent or more.
- 34. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the center has a diameter from about 0.5 inch to about 1.55 inches.

35. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 34, wherein the center has a diameter from about 1.1 inches to about 1.5 inches.



- 37. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the second cross-sectional area is about 10 percent larger than the first cross-sectional area.
- 38. (Amended) The golf ball of claim 31, wherein the strand is continuous [strand having] and has a diameter from about 0.004 to about 0.02 inches.

## Please add the following new claims:

42. (New) The golf ball of claim 1, wherein the binding material is activated after winding.

- 43. (New) A golf ball comprising:
  - a core;
  - a hoop-stress layer comprising at least one strand having a first cross-sectional
- a binding material applied to the at least one strand to increase the first crosssectional area by about 5 percent or greater; and

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area;

a cover.

44. (New) The golf ball of claim 42, wherein the hoop-stress layer has a tensile elastic modulus of about 10,000 kpsi or greater.



- 45. (New) The golf ball of claim 42, wherein the binding material is activated to further increase the first cross-sectional area.
- 46. (New) The golf ball of claim 45, wherein the binding material is activated after winding.